

REMARKS

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS.

Claims 1-78 are pending in the application.

RESTRICTION/ELECTION.

In the Office Action, the Examiner identified ten Claim Groups and required election, under 35 U.S.C. §121, of one of the Claim Groups for prosecution in the present application. Office Action, pages 2-3. The ten Claim Groups were identified by the Examiner as follows:

- I. Claims 1-12, 14, 15, 17-26, 28 and 29, relating to “in vitro methods . . .;”
- II. Claims 1-11, 13, 14, 16, 17-25, and 27-29, relating to “in vivo methods . . .;”
- III. Claims 30-42, 53, 54, and 55, “drawn to GASP polypeptides . . .;”
- IV. Claims 43-46, 53, and 54, “drawn to GPCR polypeptides . . .;”
- V. Claims 47-55, “drawn to GASP encoding polynucleotides, host cells, vectors and methods of producing a GASP polypeptide . . .;”
- VI. Claims 47-55, “drawn to GPCR encoding polynucleotides, host cells and method of producing a GPCR polypeptide . . .;”
- VII. Claims 56 and 57, “drawn to antibodies that bind a GASP polypeptide . . .;”
- VIII. Claims 56 and 57, “drawn to antibodies that bind a GPCR polypeptide . . .;”
- IX. Claims 58-61, 63-70, and 72-78, “drawn to methods for screening for an agent that modulates agonist induced down regulation of a GPCR by detecting the binding of the agent to a polypeptide or the increase or decrease in the amount of a polypeptide . . .;”
- X. Claims 58, 59, 62, 68, 69, and 71-78, “drawn to methods for screening for an agent that modulates agonist induced down regulation

of a GPCR by detecting the binding of the agent to a polynucleotide or the increase or decrease in the amount of a polynucleotide”

Applicants hereby elect Claim Group II (claims 1-11, 13, 14, 16, 17-25, and 27-29) for prosecution in the present application.

The Office Action additionally included two election of species requirements. First, the Examiner noted that claims “1-78 are generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising polypeptides of SEQ ID NO:2 and 6, and polynucleotides encoding same.” Office Action, page 6. The Examiner therefore required election of a single species. Applicants hereby elect SEQ ID NO:2 (GASP1). Each of the claims of Claim Group II is generic to, and reads on, this species. If the Examiner intended to require an election between GASP1 polypeptides and polynucleotides encoding GASP1, Applicants hereby elect GASP1 polypeptides. Each of the claims of Claim Group II is generic to, and reads on, this species.

Second, the Examiner noted that claims “1-29, 34, 35, [and] 37-78 are generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising specific GPCRs.” Office Action, page 7. The Examiner therefore required election of a single species. Applicants hereby elect the delta opioid receptor. Each of the claims of Claim Group II is generic to, and reads on, this species.

If a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (510) 769-3509.

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Respectfully submitted,

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